

Message Text

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12
ACTION EA-13

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LIMDIS

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP, BTRA, ID
SUBJ: VISIT OF MARYLAND GOV MANDEL AND BALTIMORE PORT
AUTHORITY DELEGATION

REF: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL FROM COUNTRY OFFICER P. GILL TO
SINGAPORE COM'L ATT. JOHN PENFOLD

1. SUMMARY: ADVANCE MAN FOR BALTIMORE PORT AUTHORITY HAS REQUESTED EMBASSY ASSISTANCE FOR VISIT OCTOBER 23-25 OF DELEGATION HEADED BY MARYLAND GOVERNOR MADNEL. EMBASSY PREPARING PROVIDE APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE BUT SERIOUSLY TROUBLED BY PROSPECTIVE PROBLEMS OBTAINING ENTRY OF ARMS FOR TWO GUARDS ACCOMPANYING MANDEL. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPARTMENT COORDINATE WITH MADEL STAFF ON PROBLEMS POSED AND ADVISE EMBASSY ON HANDLING. END SUMMARY.

2. ROBIN E. ROUTLEY, DIRECTOR-SOUTHEAST ASIA, MARYLAND PORT ADMINISTRATION NOW COMPLETING THREE DAY VISIT HERE AS ADVANCE MAN FOR VISIT OCTOBER 23-25 BY MARYLAND GOVERNOR AND PORT AUTHORITY DELEGATION.

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3. OCTOBER VISITING PARTY WILL CONSIST FIFTEEN PEOPLE INCLUDING:

GOVERNOR MARVIN MANDEL, MARYLAND SEC. OF TRANSPORTATION HARRY HUGHES, BALTIMORE PORT ADMINISTRATOR JOSEPH STANTON, OTHER PORT OFFICIALS, AND ASSORTED BALTIMORE BUSINESSMEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE PORT.

4. PURPOSE VISIT APPARENTLY ANNOUNCE OPENING OF PORT OF BALTIMORE OFFICE IN HONG KONG, INTRODUCE ROUTLEY AS ITS DIRECTOR, AND GENERALLY PROMOTE USE OF BALTIMORE PORT.

5. ROUTLEY HAS ASKED EMBASSY PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR VISIT IN FOLLOWING MATTERS: A) MEET PARTY AND CLEAR THROUGH AIRPORT FORMALITIES, B) PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION FOR GOVERNOR, C) SEND OUT INVITATIONS FOR RECEPTION GIVEN BY THE DELEGATION, D) SET UP APPOINTMENTS FOR DELEGATION LEADERS, WITH AMBASSADOR ACCOMPANYING GOVERNOR ON CALL TO COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER, E) ARRANGE GOVERNOR'S PRESS CONFERENCE.

6. TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE ONLY OFFICIAL NOTICE EMBASSY THUS FAR RECEIVED RE THIS FAIRLY SIGNIFICANT VISIT IS INFO COPY BRIEF REF LETTER. THOUGH WE WILL OF COURSE GIVE WHATEVER ASSISTANCE POSSIBLE, THIS VISIT APPEARS REQUIRE ADDITIONAL WASHINGTON INVOLVEMENT AND COORDINATION. IN PARTICULAR, EMBASSY CONCERNED OVER INDICATION MANDEL WILL BE COMING WITH TWO ARMED BODYGUARDS. PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE INDICATES THAT GREAT DIFFICULTY WILL BE ENCOUNTERED IN OBTAINING OFFICIAL GOI APPROVAL ENTRY AND WEARING OF ARMS, EVEN IF THE GUARDS HAVE SOME OFFICIAL STATUS. OUR EDUCATED ESTIMATE IS THAT MINIMUM THREE TO FOUR WEEKS REQUIRED FOR GOI POLICE PROCESSING OF REQUESTS FOR ENTRY PERMISSION GUARDS WITH ARMS AND OUTCOME HIGHLY UNCERTAIN AT BEST.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPARTMENT (A) PLEASE CONTACT MARYLAND STATE OFFICIALS IN CHARGE CONTEMPLATED MANDEL VISIT TO ADVISE THEM OF LONG LEAD TIME REQUIRED FOR PROCESSING APPLICATION FOR PERMIT AND HIGH UNCERTAINTY OF APPROVAL, AND TO URGE THAT GUARDS NOT REPEAT NOT BRING WEAPONS TO INDONESIA. RECOMMEND THAT INSTEAD THEY REQUEST LOCAL POLICE PROTECTION (WHICH WELL ORGANIZED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND ENTIRELY SATISFACTORY IN OUR EXPERIENCE), CONFINING OWN ACTIVITIES TO COORDINATING WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS.

B) IF MD AUTHORITIES INSISTANT THAT GUARDS MUST ATTEMPT OBTAIN ARMS ENTRY, PLEASE OBTAIN INFORMATION NORMALLY REQUIRED INCLUDING NAMES AND STATUS OF GUARDS, PRECISE NUMBER, TYPE, SERIAL NUMBERS AND CALIBRE OF WEAPONS AND AMOUNT OF AMMUNITION FOR EACH. (C) PLEASE ADVISE

EMBASSY WHAT POSITION TO TAKE WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES
IN TRANSMITTING SUCH REQUEST.
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